

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7033

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 10006

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR,EG,XF

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS

1. COINCIDENCE OF OCTOBER 6 ANNIVERSARY OF OCTOBER 1973 WAR AND 'ID HOLIDAYS HAVE MEANT PAST WEEKEND HAS BEEN GIVEN OVER TO NATIONAL CELEBRATION. HIGH POINTS WERE OCTOBER 6 PARADES HELD THROUGHOUT EGYPT, WITH FOCUS ON MILITARY PARADE IN CAIRO. MINWAR GAMASY ADDRESSED THOUSANDS AT CAIRO PARADE EMPHASIZING OCTOBER WAR HAD BEEN "ENTIRELY" AN EGYPTIAN OPERATION AND THAT MILITARY VICTORY HAD BEEN FOLLOWED BY POLITICAL VICTORIES. SINAI DISENGAGEMENTS, HE ADDED, HAD REQUIRED ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FOR FIRST TIME DURING PERIODS OF CEASEFIRE. WITHOUT NAMING NAMES, GAMASY NOTED NO ONE CAN DENY TREMENDOUS SACRIFICES EGYPT HAS MADE AND HE GREETED "OUR ARAB COMRADES IN ARMS."

2. IN INTERVIEW WITH EGYPTIAN TV OCTOBER 6, GAMASY LISTED SIX MILITARY GAINS RESULTING FROM SINAI II: (A) ISRAELI FORCES WILL WITHDRAW 55 KM EAST OF CANAL AND EGYPTIAN FORCES WILL TAKE UP POSITIONS TWICE AS FAR FROM CANAL AS THEY ARE NOW; (B) ISRAELIS WILL WITHDRAW FROM STRATEGIC PASSES; (C) NEW WITHDRAWAL WILL PROVIDE MORE SECURITY FOR CANAL NAVIGATION; (D) ISRAEL WILL WITHDRAW COMPLETELY FROM SOUTH OF SINAI, AREA WILL RETURN TO EGYPTIAN CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION, AND OIL UNCLASSIFIED

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FIELDS IN AREA WILL PRODUCE ABOUT \$300 MILLION WORTH OF OIL

ANNUALLY FOR EGYPT; (E) EGYPTIAN NAVY WILL HAVE FREEDOM OF ACTION FROM BALA'IM TO NORTHERN GULF OF SUEZ; AND (F) EGYPTIAN EARLY WARNING STATION WILL ENABLE STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE.

3. PRESIDENT SADAT HAS PERSONALLY ATTENDED ALL FESTIVITIES INCLUDING MASS YOUTH FESTIVAL OCTOBER 7, SYMBOLIC MEETING IN OPERATIONS ROOM OCTOBER 6 AND CEREMONIAL DEMOLITION OF NOTORIOUS TURA PRISON. DECORATIONS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO OCTOBER WAR HEROES AND CONGRATULATORY CABLES "POUR" INTO THE PRESIDENCY FROM EGYPTIAN AND FOREIGN WELL-WISHERS.

4. IN SHORT, EGYPT HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR BUSINESS SINCE OCTOBER 5 AND WE EXPECT FESTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE THROUGH FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10. YOUTH FESTIVAL IN PARTICULAR WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE END OF THE WEEK.
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